

FACULTY OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

Presents

THE FAIRY QUEEN
by Henry Purcell

Ivars Taurins, guest director

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Tuesday, December 10, 1991

8:00 pm

Walter Hall

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PROGRAMME

Prelude
Hornpipe
Air
Rondeau

ACT I

The drama opens in a palace where Titania orders the fairies to blindfold and pinch any mortal who should disturb their sport until such time as he confesses his sins. They soon find a drunken poet and the fairies make sport of him until he confesses that he is a wretched poet.

Come, let us leave the town
Scene of the Drunken Poet
Jig

ACT II

In a forest the fairies sing and dance, and the allegorical figures of Night and Sleep entertain Titania.

A dance of fairies
Sing while we trip it
See even Night herself is here
Hush no more
A dance for the followers of the night

ACT III

Beside a river with swans passing by, fauns, fairies, dryades and naiads gather around to dance and sing of love gained and lost.

Overture: Symphony while the Swans come forward
Dance for the fairies
Dance for the green men
If love's a sweet passion
The plaint
A thousand ways
Hornpipe

TONIGHT'S CONDUCTOR

IVARS TAURINS' multi-faceted career includes both orchestral and choral conducting in addition to performing as a violist. Mr. Taurins has been principal violist of the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra since 1980 and is founding director of the Tafelmusik Chamber Choir. A specialist in baroque and classical performance practice, he has lectured frequently on the subject in Canada, the U.S.A and in Oxford, England.

As a conductor, he was awarded the 1981 Heniz Unger Scholarship and the 1984-85 Clifford Evens Memorial Award, and most recently, the Canada Council's 1991 Healey Willan prize. From 1982 to 1987 he was music director of the London Youth Symphony in London, Ontario, and has appeared frequently as conductor with Orchestra London Canada. With Tafelmusik, Mr. Taurins has recorded for CBC Enterprises, Hyperion Records, BMG Classics and Sony Classical.

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PROGRAMME NOTES

Henry Purcell's *The Fairy Queen* was first produced in 1692. Although it is usually described as an opera, the combination of songs, dances and spoken dialogue all within a dramatic setting are better described as a Masque.

The dramatic part of *The Fairy Queen* is Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, although none of the song texts are by Shakespeare. In fact, the musical sections produced here are related to the well-known play mostly through the use of Titania and her attendant fairies. To understand tonight's production the listener should simply abandon any hope of a story line and view the production as a series of loosely related scenes inspired by Shakespeare's play.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Elizabeth Smaller
Amy Stewart
Lonnie Webster
Susan and Lawrence Zeifman

The Faculty of Music Baroque Orchestra is one of a number of Historical Performance Ensembles involved in the interpretation of music according to the style of its time. The ensembles include graduate and undergraduate students at the University of Toronto under the direction of Timothy McGee, assisted by Mary Enid Haines, Bryan Martin, and Ingrid Matthews.

PERFORMERS

Soloists

Barbara Hannigan, soprano
Ariel Harwood-Jones, soprano
Hope Nightingale, soprano
Christina Shave, soprano
Rebecca Whelan, soprano
Anne Wright, soprano
Oliver Dawson, tenor
Brett Polegato, bass

Chorus

Prepared by Bryan Martin

Barbara Hannigan, soprano
Christina Shave, soprano
Ariel Harwood-Jones, alto
Dianne Wells, alto
Durrel Bowman, tenor
Christopher Ryan, baritone
Bryan Martin, baritone

Orchestra

Violins

Nancy Case
Debra Diamond
Brian Power
Kleis Swan
Deanna Vardy

Viola

Michelle Speller

Violone

Wayne Schmidt

Cello

Irina Grunberg

Lutes

Christine deBoer
Willie Wiebe

Harpsichord

Eun Seong Cho

* * * * INTERMISSION * * * *

ACT IV

The sun rises to reveal a garden of fountains. The four seasons entertain with song and everyone praises the carefree life.

Now the night is chased away

Spring

Summer

Autumn

Winter

Thus happy and free

ACT V

Oberon causes a grand display involving Hymen whose torch is brought back to all its flaming glory as everyone celebrates love and marriage.

Hark all things

Sure the dull gods

Prelude

See I obey

Turn then thine eyes

My torch indeed

They shall be as happy

Air

They shall be as happy

Chaconne

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UPCOMING EVENTS AT FACULTY OF MUSIC

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Thursday, February 27, 1992
HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLES
present
CHAMBER MUSIC OF THE BAROQUE
Walter Hall - FREE

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Wednesday, March 25, 1992
HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLES
Presents
THE ROMANCE OF THE MIDDLE AGES

Walter Hall - Edward Johnson Building
Tickets \$ 5
Box Office 978-3744

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